

June 1957

Mimeographed Bulletin
No. 275

1956 FATAL FARM ACCIDENTS

Eleventh Year

by

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1956 Fatal Farm Accidents Eleventh Year

For the eleventh year the facts about fatal accidents to Ohio farm people are being presented so we can see where the danger spots are, when most of these accidents occur and the ages of persons who have the most accidents. It is hoped that awareness may help prevent other folks from having these same accidents and that well planned educational programs in accident prevention can be directed toward the main accident hazards.

There still are too many farm people who die accidental deaths; about eight each week.

In 1956 there were 403 Ohio farm people who died as a result of accidents. Again as in earlier years, falls and motor vehicle accidents accounted for nearly one-half of all of these accidental deaths.

Two out of every three of these victims of accidents were men or boys.

Of the off-farm fatal accidents, 60 percent were accidents involving motor vehicles -- autos, trucks, busses, or motorcycles.

Another one-fourth were cases where pedestrians were struck by an auto or truck while crossing or walking along the road.

Forty percent of the fatal accidents to Ohio farm people happened while they were off the farm. About 35 percent occurred in the home and only one-fourth occurred in the fields and around the farm service buildings.

Five out of every eight fatal accidents in the home resulted from falls and fractures. Another one-fifth were due to fires.

In the home about one-half of the fatal accidents were women and girls. But on the farm outside the home only about one in nine were female. The figures on off-farm fatal accidents shows about 30 percent were females.

About one-half of the fatal accidents that occur about the farm involve tractors and farm machinery. Thirty of the cases were farm tractor accidents. Tractors overturning caused 23 of these deaths and four more were run over by tractors. The types of farm machinery commonly involved were bailers, elevators, and wagons.

About 60 percent of the fatal accidents occurred in the six month period from May through October.

Nearly 40 percent of the farm people who met with fatal accidents in 1956 were 65 years old or over. Nearly 60 percent of these older people died following a falling accident. About one-eighth were in auto accidents.

Many of the accidental deaths to young children in farm families were due to smothering or strangulation (one-fourth), auto accidents (one-fifth), and fires (one-fifth).

Table 1
Types of Fatal Accidents: To Ohio Farm People 1956

| Type of accident causing death | 1956 | 1945-55 average |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Fall or fracture | 99 | 113 |
| Motor vehicle | 97 | 92 |
| Struck by motor vehicle | 30 | 44 |
| Tractor or farm machinery | 50 | 38 |
| Farm animal | 7 | 10 |
| Fire or burn | 30 | 40 |
| Train | 14 | 22 |
| Drowning | 29 | 21 |
| Smother or strangulation | 13 | 16 |
| Firearm | 14 | 11 |
| Other | <u>20</u> | <u>27</u> |
| Total | 403 | 434 |

Table 2
Fatal Accidents Off the Farm: To Ohio Farm People 1956

| Type of accident causing death | 1956 | | 1946-55 average |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| | Male | Female | |
| Pedestrian struck by motor vehicle | 23 | 7 | 41 |
| Motor vehicle | | | |
| Auto-auto collision | 29 | 22 | 47 |
| Auto-fixed object collision | 19 | 8 | 18 |
| Auto-truck collision | 8 | 5 | 9 |
| Miscellaneous auto accident | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| Auto or truck-train accident | 7 | 5 | 15 |
| Pedestrian struck by train | 2 | | 8 |
| Drowning | 13 | 1 | 15 |
| Fall on same level | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Tractor accidents on highway | 4 | | 2 |
| Other | <u>2</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>13</u> |
| Total | 113 | 50 | 179 |

Table 3
Home Accidents: Fatal Accidents to Ohio Farm People 1956

| Type of accident causing death | 1956 | | 1946-55 Average |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| | Male | Female | |
| Fall on same level | 15 | 27 | 45 |
| Fall from different level | 5 | 4 | 10 |
| Fracture | 16 | 22 | 35 |
| Fire | 17 | 9 | 36 |
| Smothered or suffocated | 9 | 3 | 16 |
| Poison | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| Firearm | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Other | <u>6</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>11</u> |
| Total | 72 | 71 | 162 |

(4)

Table 4
Farm Accidents: Fatal Accidents on the Farm,
Outside the Home, Ohio, 1956

| Type of accident causing death | 1956 | | 1946-55 average |
|-----------------------------------|------|--------|--------------------|
| | Male | Female | |
| Tractor or farm machinery | 41 | 5 | 36 |
| Fall from different level | 4 | | 12 |
| Fall on same level | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| Struck by falling tree or object | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Firearm | 8 | | 5 |
| Farm animal | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| Fire or burn | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Drowning | 11 | 1 | 4 |
| Lightning or electric shock | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| Other | 6 | — | 9 |
| Total | 86 | 11 | 93 |

Table 5
Time and Place: of Accidental Deaths to
Ohio Farm People, 1956

| Month | Farm | Home | Off-Farm | Total | 1946-55 average |
|-----------|------|------|----------|-------|--------------------|
| January | 2 | 19 | 7 | 28 | 30 |
| February | 2 | 8 | 7 | 17 | 33 |
| March | 3 | 11 | 13 | 27 | 30 |
| April | 6 | 12 | 6 | 24 | 33 |
| May | 12 | 11 | 14 | 37 | 38 |
| June | 14 | 11 | 24 | 49 | 39 |
| July | 8 | 10 | 22 | 40 | 45 |
| August | 12 | 10 | 11 | 33 | 40 |
| September | 8 | 18 | 16 | 42 | 38 |
| October | 17 | 10 | 12 | 39 | 39 |
| November | 10 | 12 | 16 | 38 | 33 |
| December | 3 | 11 | 15 | 29 | 36 |
| Total | 97 | 143 | 163 | 403 | 434 |

(5)

Table 6
Age, Sex and Place: Accidental Deaths to
Ohio Farm People, 1956

| | 1956 | | | | | | Total |
|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | Farm | | Home | | Off-Farm | | |
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | |
| 0- 4 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 42 |
| 5-14 | 13 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 14 | 9 | 47 |
| 15-24 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 13 | 56 |
| 25-44 | 20 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 16 | 5 | 51 |
| 45-64 | 19 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 16 | 6 | 50 |
| 65 & over | <u>24</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>39</u> | <u>55</u> | <u>27</u> | <u>10</u> | <u>157</u> |
| Total | 86 | 11 | 72 | 71 | 113 | 50 | 403 |

| 1946-55 average | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| 0- 4 | 6 | 3 | 19 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 52 |
| 5-14 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 21 | 7 | 48 |
| 15-24 | 8 | | 1 | 2 | 28 | 6 | 45 |
| 25-44 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 8 | 43 |
| 45-64 | 20 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 26 | 11 | 69 |
| 65 & over | <u>30</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>44</u> | <u>55</u> | <u>38</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>177</u> |
| Total | 85 | 8 | 78 | 84 | 134 | 45 | 434 |

Table 8
 Fatal Accident to Ohio Farm People 1946-56

| Year | Number | Year | Number |
|------|--------|------|--------|
| 1946 | 507 | 1952 | 460 |
| 1947 | 452 | 1953 | 410 |
| 1948 | 442 | 1954 | 447 |
| 1949 | 444 | 1955 | 354 |
| 1950 | 424 | 1956 | 403 |
| 1951 | 400 | | |

Table 7
Accidental Deaths by Age Groups: to Ohio Farm People 1956

| Type of accident causing death | Oldsters | | Age 5-64 | | Youngsters | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|
| | Age, 65 & over | | | | Age, under 5 | |
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Fall or fracture | 36 | 54 | 8 | 1 | | |
| Motor vehicle | 11 | 8 | 46 | 24 | 4 | 4 |
| Struck by auto | 10 | 1 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Tractor or machinery | 10 | | 32 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Farm animal | 2 | | 4 | 1 | | |
| Train | 2 | | 7 | 5 | | |
| Fire | 9 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 2 |
| Drowning | 2 | | 22 | | 2 | 3 |
| Smother or strangle | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 8 | 2 |
| Lightning or shock | | | 5 | 1 | 1 | |
| Struck by object | 2 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Poison | | | 1 | 2 | | |
| Firearm | 2 | 1 | 9 | 1 | | 1 |
| Other | <u>3</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>—</u> |
| Total | 90 | 67 | 154 | 50 | 27 | 15 |